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UNCLAS ALMATY 001860

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NP/ECC PVANSON, ACHURCH, JGABRYSZEWSKI
CBP/INA FOR PWARKER AND CDONOFRIO
USDOE/NNSA FOR TPERRY
DEPT FOR EUR/ACE DMARTIN
DOC FOR PETERSON-BEARD
AMEMBASSY BERLIN FOR CUSTOMS ATTACHE
AMEMBASSY TASHKENT, BISHKEK, BAKU, DUSHANBE FOR EXBS
ADVISORS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [KSTC](#) [KNNP](#) [KZ](#) [EXBS](#)

SUBJECT: EXBS: KAZAKHSTAN ADVISOR MONTHLY REPORTING CABLE
(APRIL 2005)

[I](#). BROAD ITEMS OF INTEREST TO ADVISORS AND AGENCY MANAGERS:

[1](#). None.

II. COMPLETED ACTIONS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

[A](#). SITE ASSESSMENTS AND MEETINGS CONDUCTED

[1](#). Although no formal site assessments were conducted this month, a trip to the Kordai post on the Kyrgyz-Kazakh border was undertaken on April 22 in support of the University of Georgia, Center for International Trade and Security team's visit. Two members of the assessment team and the EXBS advisor were given a tour of the Kordai's inspection area and visited the customs office in which documents and payments are processed.

[2](#). On April 4, the EXBS advisor attended a meeting with Yash Holbrook of EURCOM's Caspian Guard Initiative (CGI). Also present at the meeting were representatives from the embassy's International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Office and the Security Assistance Office. CGI is a joint EUCOM/CENTCOM effort to create an informal coordinating mechanism for US government security cooperation efforts in the Caspian Basin and at present focuses on Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan. CGI has begun publishing monthly updates and liaises with NP/ECC to obtain official input and comments.

[3](#). Fred Fetty, EXBS Advisor to Uzbekistan and former EXBS Advisor to Kazakhstan, met with EXBS Advisor Offenbacher on April 5-7 to help the latter better understand the history, current state of and future options for the EXBS program in Kazakhstan.

[4](#). On April 5, Offenbacher, Fetty and Gulnara Abildaeva, EXBS Program Manager flew to Astana to meet with representatives from the Customs Control Committee, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Border Guard.

On April 6, Offenbacher, Fetty and Abildaeva met with Customs Control Committee officials Mr. Alikhan Mambetalin, First Deputy Chairman, Daniyar Kerimbekov, Head of International Relations Department, and Ms. Zhannat Shalabayeva, Senior Specialist of the International Relations Division to discuss custom's training and equipment requirements. Mr. Kerimbekov provided EXBS with a list of desired equipment and said he would follow up with a prioritized official list.

Offenbacher, Fetty and Abildaeva attended a roundtable meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on April 7. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was represented by Mr. Dastan Eleukenov, Deputy Director of the Multilateral Cooperation Division, Mr. Sergei Savelev, Head of the International Security Division, and Serik Zhumabaev, also with the Multilateral Cooperation Division. Mr. Abylay Nurakhmetov, Deputy Head of the Border Cooperation Department, represented the Border Guard Service. Customs Control Committee representatives Mr. Yergali Shiganbayev, Deputy Head of the Customs Control Organizing Department and Mr. Kerimbekov also attended the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce new EXBS Advisor Offenbacher to his counterparts in the Government of Kazakhstan and learn more about Kazakhstan's training program and equipment needs.

[5](#). On April 14, EXBS Advisor Offenbacher and EXBS Program Manager Abildaeva met with Mr. Mukhtar Makulbayev, Head of the Organizational Division of the Almaty Customs Control Office. Also present at the meeting were Mr. Serik Sarsenov and Ms. Amina Askarova, Deputy Heads of the said office, as well as Mr. Ermek Smagulov of the Customs Control Committee headquarters in Astana. The goal of the

meeting was to shed light on the reasons for past equipment delivery delays and learn how to avoid them in the future. The customs representatives were helpful and patiently explained customs clearance procedures for US technical assistance shipments, including advice on how to facilitate the planned August 2005 delivery of three SafeBoats to the Marine Division of the Border Guard. The EXBS advisor and program manager were encouraged to contact the office when questions arise.

16. During the week of April 18, Michael Beck, Dmitry Nikonov and Michael Jasinski of the University of Georgia's Center for International Trade and Security (CITS) conducted an assessment of Kazakhstan's export control system. The three CITS export control experts met with government officials, NGO representatives, and industry contacts in Astana and Almaty. The EXBS advisor accompanied the group to their meetings in Almaty on April 18 and 19. The CITS group expressed the opinion that their meetings were productive and the information they received would be useful for their assessment.

17. On April 27, the EXBS advisor attended a meeting the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) held with representatives of the Atomic Energy Committee of Kazakhstan and the non-governmental Nuclear Technology Safety Center. The DTRA team was headed by International Counterproliferation Program (ICP) Policy Analyst Kathryn Ducceschi. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the types of radiation detection equipment needed by Kazakhstan to establish an effective radiological investigative response capability.

During the meeting, EXBS Advisor Offenbacher spoke with Ms. Ducceschi and was told about DTRA ICP's planned activities in Kazakhstan, including the upcoming Radiation Detection and Response course to be held in September. Offenbacher also inquired about what to do with 96 evidence kits given to the EXBS by DTRA in early 2003. It was decided that the kits will be distributed to Kazakhstani agencies, primarily the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Customs.

B. TRAINING DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

1. April 7-8 - Three export control specialists from the U.S. Department of Commerce / Bureau of Industry and Trade's Office of International Programs conducted a development conference for a Product Identification Tool (PIT) in Astana. The two-day event initiated the PIT software development project and was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Customs Control Committee of Kazakhstan.

The level of interest in the PIT program was high and many questions were posed during the conference. An official response from the Customs Control Committee was received in early May in which the Committee states that it considers the PIT program to be useful and necessary for its work.

2. April 11-14 - Commonwealth Training Partners conducted a Targeting and Risk Management workshop at the Dostyk Hotel in Almaty. The workshop was attended by twenty-three officials and aimed to improve the ability of customs officers to identify high-risk shipments.

The workshop was well received and provided a large amount of information to Kazakhstani customs employees on how to deal with the threat of WMD and dual-use material proliferation. The EXBS advisor spoke with several participants to solicit their opinions of the training and received unequivocally positive responses. A desire was expressed to incorporate more practical exercises in future trainings, perhaps even conducting the training at

international customs ports in the regions.

C. EQUIPMENT DELIVERED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.

1. April 18-22 - EXBS Program Manager Gulnara Abildaeva traveled to Aktau to hand over \$300,000 in parts and equipment for the SeaArk boat to the Marine Division of the Kazakhstani Border Guard. Border Guard Marine Division Commander Kenjemergen Abikeyev was somewhat disappointed after reviewing the spare parts and discovering that there was no diesel generator included in the shipment. He emphasized that it is very important to receive a new generator for the nine-year-old SeaArk boat. Commander Abikeyev also expressed a desire for the parts to be installed by qualified technicians.

Ms. Abildaev traveled to Bautino from Aktau to conduct an inventory of EXBS equipment and determine mooring points for the three EXBS-funded SafeBoats scheduled to be delivered in September. Commander Abikeyev pointed out that in order to properly maintain the three SafeBoats it

will be necessary to install lifts and a construct a boat repair facility in Bautino.

D. IMMINENT TRAINING OR EQUIPMENT STATUS UPDATE.

1. May 17-18 - The Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration's (DOE/NNSA) International Nonproliferation Export Control Program (INECP) will conduct a seminar on export controls and internal compliance at the Stepnogorsk Mining-Chemical Combine.

2. May 23-27 - DOE/NNSA/INECP will hold an instructors training workshop in Almaty for technical experts involved in the development of Commodity Identification Training.

3. In May, EXBS Kazakhstan will receive two shipments for DOE/NNSA's Office of International Radiological Threat Reduction. One is for the Cooperative Radiological Instrument Transfer (CRITr) project and the other is for the Search and Secure program.

E. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN EXPORT CONTROLS, NONPROLIFERATION, OR RELATED BORDER SECURITY.

1. None.

III. RED FLAG ISSUES.

1. None.

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